

The LECs operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning stimulates competition and benefits consumers. At the moment, we do have competition on a national and local level. This results in giving retired people affordable access. I agree with Mr Powell, whoever he is, since I have seen the results of big national firms forcing out smaller, local businesses with limited and temporary savings to the consumer. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.